

M.P. Government Proposal for Janata Hotel

4634. SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA YADAV: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Madhya Pradesh and other State Governments have sent any proposals or the Central Government are considering a proposal to construct Janata Hotels in States to attract more tourists; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) and (b). No concrete proposal to construct Janata Hotels in States was received from any State Government. However, the Governments of Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Gujarat; Tamil Nadu; Tripura, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Delhi Administration recommended the setting up of Janata Hotels in their States/territories in the Central Sector during the Tourism Minister's Conference held in November, 1978.

Further construction of Janata Hotels in the Central Sector by the Central Government will be considered only after Government have evaluated the operational results, over the first 2-3 years of the Ashok Yatri Nivas at Delhi, which is a pilot project.

Racket in Air Ticket Reservation at Trivandrum Airport for Gulf Countries

4635. SHRI K. A. RAJAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the prevailing racket in air ticket reservation at the Trivandrum Airport mainly to the Gulf countries; and

(b) if so, will Government order an enquiry into such allegations?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) and (b). No complaints have been received regarding racket in air ticket reservation from Trivandrum airport to Gulf countries. However, during August and September, 1980, Air-India flights to Gulf countries were a little over-booked which might have given this impression. Air-India has since increased the number of flights from Trivandrum to Gulf from 4 to 7 a week. This capacity is quite adequate and there is no likelihood of a complaint on account of shortage of capacity.

Bank Robberies in West Bengal

4636. SHRI JAI NARAIN ROAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bank robberies in the West Bengal during the current year and the amount looted from there; and

(b) the steps taken by the Central Government in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b). According to the information collected from the commercial banks, there have been 7 dacoities/robberies in the banks located in the State of West Bengal and a total sum of about Rs. 7.77 lakhs has been looted. The banks concerned have reported the matter to the local police authorities.

Growth rate of Tourism in India

4637. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the growth rate of tourism in India during the last 3 years, year-wise;